

OH DEAR, A FEW CRASHERS JUST CAME IN

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THEY'RE CRASHERS?

JUST CALL IT A HUNCH

© 1984 Lynn Hesse. All rights reserved. Lynn Hesse is a registered trademark of Lynn Hesse.

THERE'S NO SHORTCUT, SAIL. GREAT LAWNS REQUIRE GREAT ATTENTION!

ONE MUST DETHATCH ... ONE MUST AERATE ONE MUST IRRIGATE ...

... ONE MUST IMPRESS ONE'S MATE WITH OBSCURE BUZZ WORDS.

JARGON! IT'S NOT A MANLY PURSUIT UNLESS THERE'S JARGON.

By Bob Ollivier

PRESTON'S OWN MEN ATTACKED YOUR STORE? IT WAS AN ACT!

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

TRUST ME!

I DON'T TRUST ANYONE WHO WEARS A MASK!

WELL, I TRIED!

ONLY ONE THING FOR ME TO DO!

SPIDER-MAN
LARRY LIEBER
576

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
BY STAN LEE
AND JOHN ROBERTSON
ILLUSTRATED BY JIMMY
KNEELAND

WHY DON'T YOU EVER LET ME WEAR MAKEUP?

BECAUSE WITH WHAT YOU HAVE, YOU DON'T NEED IT.

YOU'RE RIGHT. I'VE INHERITED SOMETHING FROM YOU THAT MAKES MAKEUP TOTALLY UNNECESSARY...

I'M DELUSIONAL.

©1997 JEFF SMITH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. JEFF SMITH IS A TRADEMARK OF JEFF SMITH.

© 1992 M.G.N. TO
DIST. BY MISROS SYNDICATION INTERNATIONAL
VIA NORTH AMERICA SYNDICATE INC.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO, AUNT FLO—ALAN AND ME LIKE EACH OTHER TOO MUCH TO EVER GET MARRIED.

GOOD NIGHT, ALL.

YOU NEVER DID LIKE ME, DID YOU?!

64

CHRIS MADDEN
5-6

I WISH I COULD TELL MY LITTLE DUCKLINGS THEY'RE WASTING THEIR TIME...

HAGAR NEVER DROPS ANY FOOD!

www.kingfeatures.com

SO YOU'RE A DOGGIE DENTIST, HUH?

YES, MA'AM.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A REGULAR DENTIST AND A DOG DENTIST?

...ABOUT TWO FINGERS.

© 1999 by Blumenthal. All rights reserved. www.blumenthal.com

THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT SAVES THE DAY!
CHECK OUT THESE BROCHURES I MADE.

THIS NEW PRODUCT WILL ALLOW US TO DOMINATE THE MARKET!

BUT WE DON'T MAKE THIS PRODUCT.

THAT HASN'T HURT OUR SALES SO FAR.

© 1986 United Feature Syndicate Inc.

S. Adams

PARTY
DOWN
at
CENTRAL
INTELLIGENCE

Cooooo!...

Remember, men, we know
nothing.

IN CELEBRATION OF
THEIR LATEST
CLASSIFIED VICTORY
OVER AN UNNAMEABLE
FOE, THE C.I.A.
SET OFF STEALTH
FIREWORKS THAT
NO ONE COULD
SEE OR HEAR.

HILARY

© 1988 BY AL STAYSKAL FOR SYGMA INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

STAYSKAL

"The diagnostic readout says to put it out of its misery."

Baseball Hall-of-Famer Willie Mays is 36. **U.S. Sen. Richard Shelby** (R-Ala.) is 64. **Rock singer Bob Seger** is 53. **Singer Jimmie Dale Gilmore** is 53. **Actor Ben Masters** is 51. **British Prime Minister Tony Blair** is 45. **Actor George Clooney** is 37. **Actor Clay O'Brien** (The Apple Dumpling Gang) is 37. **Actress Roma Downey** is 35. **Rock musician Mark Bryan** (Hootie and the Blowfish) is 31.

LET'S WELCOME
TONIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENT
... BY THE NAME OF OUR
OWN HEARTS

JOHN TESH LIVE

At the Anesthesiologist Convention.

						Double Word Score	 RACK 1
N	I	I	H	O	G		
						RACK 2	
K	R	F	O	O	S		
						RACK 3	
L	N	A	I	C	G		
						RACK 4	
X	B	A	I	C	T		
						Triple Word Score	
					A		

PAR SCORE 165-175

by JUDD

**FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN**

DIRECTIONS. Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blank" used as any letter (has no point value). All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriman-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOWORKROW**

©1998 United Features Syndicate, Inc.

WORD SLEUTH

P Z V R N J F C Y U Q N J F C
Y V R O L H E B X U R O L I E
B Y V **D R A G O N** S Q N K H N
E B Y W T R O L J O G E B A Y
W U R P N K I G D D R A Y B Z
X V S O O M K I G E C C R N N
A Y W Y U S Q O N P N O A O L
J H F E N C A Y G A X R N D V
U S Q P N N R A Y R G N A A M
K J H F E C A N O Y A R C R E
Z Y X V U Y D N A C T C O R

For solution, see Classified

For Thursday, May 7, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Morning hours are hectic but productive. In the afternoon, you slack off a bit.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You're on the ball and have done all the necessary research. You tackle that pressing work assignment with vigor.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) A new hobby or physical activity has you revved up and enthusiastic. Be sure, though, that you don't ignore necessary tasks.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your creativity takes a new turn, and you come up with an exciting, innovative plan.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Your directness sometimes causes problems for you. In this instance, your mate doesn't appreciate it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) A minor tiff occurs between you and a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You're putting the proverbial cart before the horse. Step back and reassess the situation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) In general it's a quiet time for you. There's nothing much going on either at home or at work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A careful re-evaluation of your career plans is needed. If possible, seek the opinion of someone who can help.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Happily, things are panning out just as you'd hoped. Avoid a tendency to gloat.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You have things back in their proper perspective, and co-workers are grateful. Much is on your schedule.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You're disappointed in a mate's work schedule. However, there's nothing much you can do about it.

By Bobby Wolff

A bridge player is challenged with many choices. He faces choices during the bidding, a possible crucial one on opening lead, and several more in declarer play or defense. For a declarer, perhaps the most challenging choice is deciding which defender has a missing trump queen. In today's deal, is the finesse for the trump queen a pure guess, or do the odds favor one way over the other?

West cashes his king and queen of hearts and switches to the club queen. South wins and studies his hand. He doesn't have many. Because it is highly unlikely an endplay will eliminate a club loser, success rests with picking up the trump queen. In which direction should he finesse? If he targets West, he cashes his king and leads low to dummy. West discards, and the game fails. Obviously, finessing against East would have been better. However, the problem is more complex than a 50-50 guess if trumps are 3-2, locating the queen is a tossup decision. But what if they are 4-1? Then the odds favor a finesse against East. Why? If West holds four trumps, including the Q-9, South cannot avoid the trump loser. However, if East holds the trump stack, proper technique will pick up the suit. To pick up East's trumps, South must lead low to dummy's ace and return the jack. When East and South cover, West's discard reveals the position. South then returns to dummy in diamonds to finesse against East's trump nine, and he can claim his game and rubber.

NORTH 65-64-1

♠ A J 3 2
♥ J 4
♦ K J 10
♣ 8 6 5 4

WEST **EAST**

♠ 5 ♠ Q 9 7 6
♥ K Q 10 6 5 ♥ A 9 7 2
♦ 6 5 3 2 ♦ 8 4
♣ J Q J ♣ 10 7 3

SOUTH

♠ K 10 8 4
♥ 8 3
♦ A Q 9 7
♣ A K 2

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	All pass

Opening lead: Heart king

ACROSS

1 Kind of shower
7 Bedroom furniture
14 Treat with gas
15 "Gunsmoke" deputy
18 Mythical warrior
17 Consolidated clockmaker?
19 Give off
21 Teachers' org
22 Cleopatra biter
23 Oldenburg "oh!"
26 Private reply, maybe
28 Oktoberfest supply
29 Valerie Harper TV role
32 Start of many ship names
33 "Peter Pan" heroine

DOWN

34 Consolidated composer?
37 Decree
38 Popular radio format
42 Consolidated singer?
46 Wistful exclamation
48 Stir
50 Accepted rule
51 Actor's goal
52 Office folk
54 Literary monogram
55 Yale
56 Ally of the Fox tribe
57 Kismet
58 Consolidated puzzle author?
63 Mountainous
67 Distinguished
68 Headline-making weather phenomenon

Devotion

70 Places to sit, paradoxically

ACROSS

1 Kind of shower
7 Bedroom furniture
14 Treat with gas
15 "Gunsmoke" deputy
18 Mythical warrior
17 Consolidated clockmaker?
19 Give off
21 Teachers' org
22 Cleopatra biter
23 Oldenburg "oh!"
26 Private reply, maybe
28 Oktoberfest supply
29 Valerie Harper TV role
32 Start of many ship names
33 "Peter Pan" heroine

DOWN

34 Consolidated composer?
37 Decree
38 Popular radio format
42 Consolidated singer?
46 Wistful exclamation
48 Stir
50 Accepted rule
51 Actor's goal
52 Office folk
54 Literary monogram
55 Yale
56 Ally of the Fox tribe
57 Kismet
58 Consolidated puzzle author?
63 Mountainous
67 Distinguished
68 Headline-making weather phenomenon

Devotion

70 Places to sit, paradoxically

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	E	W	E	D	M	O	S	H	E	T	I	P
E	L	A	T	E	O	O	H	E	D	A	L	I
C	H	I	C	K	E	N	F	E	E	D	P	I
T	I	T	H	E	S	E	L	Y	S	I	A	N
S	C	R	A	P	E	U	N	D	O			
S	L	O	W	R	U	M	R	O	K			
R	I	W	I	O	M	E	N	R	A	M	B	O

S	U	S	H	I	A	C	L	U	N	O	L	O
E	L	I	E	R	O	D	E	R				
B	A	W	L	N	E	E	S	T	E			
A	N	I	M	A	L	S	E	X	H	U	M	E
L	A	T	S	I	S	S	I	S	P	A	C	K
S	I	C	S	N	E	E	N	E	L	L	I	E
A	S	H	T	E	N	T	S	L	E	A	N	S

PUZZLE BY GENE HOFFMAN

36 Court	63 Brazilian dance	61 Ike's WW II command
39 Bnef O K - Abbr.	63 Passengers	62 Marshal under Napoleon
40 They can be bruised	64 Dog-paddled, e.g.	64 Conclusion of some games
41 Between 0% and 100%	65 Conclusion of some games	65 Conclusion
43 Jeer	66 Post - St Vincent wind	66 Chis of advice
46 Remove		
48 Couturer Cassini		
47 Mother of Constantine the Great		
49 Get closer to, in a race		

Answers to all three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5555 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years. 1-888-7-ACROSS.